

Dear FCC Commissioners of the FCC --

I am extremely concerned about the changes your are contemplating to the rules governing ownership of the media. Our nation was founded on the free exchange of ideas. I have worked for local television and radio stations and I have seen firsthand that DIVERSITY OF MEDIA OWNERSHIP IS CRUCIAL TO THE PUBLIC EXCHANGE OF IDEAS upon which the continued health of our great democracy depends.

Particularly troubling is the consolidation of the public airwaves among just a few owners focused on nothing but making money. As a member of the American public, I own those airwaves. These days the companies that lease them seem to have forgotten that they have a profound responsibility to use those airwaves in the public interest. That means promoting the free exchange of ideas in addition to creating wealth.

Today I'm a freelance writer, selling my writing to a variety of newspapers and magazines. As a self-employed entrepreneur, I believe running a successful business -- making money and creating wealth -- is as important to the public interest as the free exchange of ideas. But if the media continue to consolidate, it will be much harder for me to do either. There will be fewer outlets to which I can sell my work, leading to a loss of livelihood for me, and for our nation, a reduction in the variety of voices in the public marketplace of ideas.

Please think long and hard before you allow this dangerous trend toward media consolidation to continue.

Sincerely,  
Kristin Henderson

--Kristin Henderson  
--kristinhh@aol.com  
--202.256.3022

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<ADDRESS1>&nbsp; PO Box 696<BR>  
<ADDRESS2>&nbsp; <BR>  
<CITY>&nbsp; Swansboro<BR>  
<STATE>&nbsp; NC<BR>  
<ZIP>&nbsp; 28584<BR>  
<LAW-FIRM> <BR>  
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<CONTACT-EMAIL>&nbsp; kristinhh@aol.com<BR>  
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